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AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
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AMEMBASSY CAIRO BY POUCH
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TOSEC 927 - JERUSALEM ONLY ZFF

.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CENTO

SUBJECT: CENTO FINAL COMMUNIQUE

ANKARA PLEASE PASS CENTO HQS

ISLAMABAD AND TEHRAN PLEASE PASS MINISTRIES OF INFORMATION

FOLLOWING IS TEXT CENTO FINAL COMMUNIQUE:

QUOTE: CENTO COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, TWENTY-FIRST SESSION
HELD IN WASHINGTON, FINAL PRESS COMMUNIQUE

WASHINGTON, D.C., MAY 22, 1974. THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
OF THE CENTRAL TREATY ORGANIZATION (CENTO) HELD ITS 21ST
SESSION IN WASHINGTON ON MAY 21 AND 22, 1974.

THE DELEGATIONS WERE LED BY:

1. H.E. MR. ABBAS ALI KHALATBARY, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS, IRAN.

2. H.E. MR. AZIZ AHMED, MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENSE
AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS, PAKISTAN.

3. H.E. MR. MELIH ESENBEL, AMBASSADOR OF TURKEY TO
THE UNITED STATES, TURKEY.

4. THE RT. HON. JAMES CALLAGHAN, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR
FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS, UNITED KINGDOM.

5. THE HON. KENNETH RUSH, ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE,
UNITED STATES.

2. THE MEETING OPENED WITH A MESSAGE OF WELCOME FROM
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, REAFFIRMING THE
SUPPORT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR CENTO AND EXPRESSING
THE EARNEST HOPE THAT THE PATTERN OF COOPERATION THAT
HAS EVOLVED AMONG THE PARTNERS IN THE ORGANIZATION WILL
CONTINUE TO BE FRUITFUL. THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY OPENING
STATEMENTS BY THE LEADERS OF THE DELEGATIONS AND THE
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SECRETARY GENERAL OF CENTO. APPRECIATION WAS EXPRESSED
FOR THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE AND THE WARM HOSPITALITY OF
THE HOST GOVERNMENT.

3. THE HONORABLE KENNETH RUSH, THE ACTING SECRETARY OF
STATE OF THE UNITED STATES, PRESIDED AT THE SESSION IN
THE ABSENCE OF SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER. SECRETARY
KISSINGER SENT A MESSAGE TO THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

EXPRESSING HIS SUPPORT FOR CENTO AND HIS REGRET AT BEING UNABLE TO ATTEND THE SESSION BECAUSE OF HIS NEED TO REMAIN IN THE MIDDLE EAST IN CONNECTION WITH EFFORTS TO BRING PEACE TO THAT REGION.

4. THE MINISTERS HAD A THOROUGH AND CONSTRUCTIVE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON RECENT INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS, GIVING SPECIAL ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF INTEREST IN THE CENTO REGION AND REVIEWED INTENSIVELY THE PROSPECTS FOR FURTHER PROMOTING COOPERATION WITHIN THE ALLIANCE IN ALL POSSIBLE FIELDS.

5. THE MINISTERS REITERATED THEIR FIRM RESOLUTION FOR THE RESPECT OF THE PRINCIPLES AND THE PURPOSES OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND STRESSED THE NECESSITY OF STRENGTHENING ITS ROLE IN THE SERVICE OF MANKIND AND WORLD PEACE.

6. HAVING REVIEWED THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST, THE MINISTERS AGREED THAT THE PROLONGED CONFLICT IN THE AREA HAS CONSTITUTED A GRAVE THREAT TO WORLD PEACE. THEY WELCOMED THE STEPS TAKEN SO FAR TOWARDS ATTAINMENT OF A JUST, HONOURABLE AND DURABLE PEACE IN THE AREA AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT ALL PARTIES CONCERNED WOULD PERSEVERE IN THESE EFFORTS. THEY EXPRESSED THEIR APPRECIATION FOR THE EFFORTS OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER. THE MINISTERS REAFFIRMED THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 242, OF 22 NOVEMBER 1967.

7. THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS EXCHANGED VIEWS ON THE DEVELOPMENTS IN EUROPE, ESPECIALLY WITH REFERENCE TO THE CONFERENCE ON EUROPEAN SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION (CESC) AND THE MUTUAL AND BALANCED FORCE REDUCTION (MBFR). THEY EXPRESSED THE HOPE FOR A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

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FURTHER STAGES LEADING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF GENUINE PEACE AND SECURITY IN EUROPE AND THAT THE DETENTE ATTAINED IN EUROPE WILL LEAD TO A RELAXATION OF TENSION IN OTHER REGIONS OF THE WORLD. IN THIS CONTEXT, THE MINISTERS STRESSED THAT SECURITY IN THE CENTO REGION CONSTITUTES AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF EUROPEAN SECURITY.

8. THE MINISTERS NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THE PROGRESS MADE DURING THE PAST YEAR TOWARDS NORMALIZATION OF THE SITUATION IN THE SOUTH ASIAN SUB-CONTINENT. THEY AGREED THAT THE RECOGNITION OF BANGLADESH BY PAKISTAN HAD MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROMOTION OF RECONCILIATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND THAT THE SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF THE TRIPARTITE MEETING BETWEEN PAKISTAN, INDIA AND BANGLADESH, WHICH RESULTED IN A SATISFACTORY SETTLEMENT

OF THE OUTSTANDING HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS, HAD PAVED THE WAY FOR FURTHER PROGRESS TOWARD THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DURABLE PEACE IN THE REGION.

9. THE MINISTERS NOTED THAT THE INDIAN NUCLEAR TEST OF MAY 18 HAD INTRODUCED A NEW FACTOR WITH WORLD AND REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS WHICH WILL REQUIRE FURTHER STUDY. THEY EXPRESSED THEIR OPPOSITION TO NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION.

10. THE MINISTERS REAFFIRMED THE VITAL IMPORTANCE THEY ATTACH TO THE PRESERVATION OF THE INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF EACH OF THE MEMBER STATES IN THIS REGION.

11. THE MINISTERS ALSO NOTED PAKISTAN'S STEADY ECONOMIC PROGRESS MADE DURING THE PAST YEAR, A PROGRESS WHICH WAS ALL THE MORE REMARKABLE BECAUSE IT WAS ACHIEVED DESPITE WIDE-SPREAD FLOODS WHICH CAUSED A DEVASTATING LOSS OF LIFE AND LIVELIHOOD.

12. THE MINISTERS NOTED THE IMPRESSIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME CONDUCTED BY IRAN UNDER THE DIRECTION OF HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY INCLUDING THE PROVISION OF FREE EDUCATIONAL AND ESSENTIAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR ALL CITIZENS.

14. THE MINISTERS, REVIEWING THE REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC
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COMMITTEE, EXPRESSED THEIR PLEASURE AT THE CONTINUING PROGRESS IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES IN THE REGION. THEY WELCOMED THE DECISION OF THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT TO COMPLETE THE LAST (KERMAN-ZAHEDAN) LINK IN THE RAILWAY LINKING PAKISTAN WITH IRAN AND EUROPE. THEY ALSO NOTED IRAN'S DECISION TO BUILD A ROAD WHICH WILL LINK THE RAPIDLY DEVELOPING PORT OF CHAHBAHAR WITH PAKISTAN AND ALSO PAKISTAN'S PROJECTIONS FOR FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS TO DEVELOP THE MEKRA, COAST. THE MINISTERS ALSO NOTED THAT PLANS ARE BEING MADE FOR STUDIES TO BE MADE OF THE RAILROAD FERRY SYSTEM ACROSS LAKE VAN AND THE IMPROVEMENT OF ROADS CONNECTING TURKISH PORTS WITH IRAN. THE MINISTERS EXPRESSED THEIR HOPE THAT THIS PROGRESS WOULD CONTINUE. THEY APPROVED THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE THAT THERE BE A MEETING OF HIGH LEVEL OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS THE MATTERS OF COMMON INTEREST AND EXPRESSED THEIR WISH THAT THIS GROUP STUDY CAREFULLY HOW THE ORGANIZATION CAN BEST CONTRIBUTE TO THE ECONOMIC STRENGTH OF ITS MEMBERS.

15. THE MINISTERS NOTED THE REPORT OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE AND EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE PROGRESS

MADE DURING THE PAST YEAR IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF
CO-OPERATION AMONG THE PARTNERS IN THE MILITARY FIELD.

16. THE MINISTERS NOTED WITH CONCERN THE CONTINUING
SUBVERSIVE THREAT AGAINST THE REGION, AND REAFFIRMED
THEIR RESOLVE TO ELIMINATE THIS THREAT. THEY NOTED THAT
THE PAST YEAR HAD SEEN SUBSTANTIAL ADVANCES IN THE
POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC LIFE OF THE PEOPLE OF THE REGION AND
EXPRESSED THEIR CONFIDENCE THAT THESE SUBVERSIVE EFFORTS
ARE FARTHER FROM SUCCESS THAN EVER. THEY EXPRESSED THE
DETERMINATION OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO CONTINUE THEIR
PROGRESSIVE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRAMMES TO FURTHER
STRENGTHEN THEIR COUNTRIES.

17. CONCLUDING THEIR REVIEW, THE MINISTERS NOTED WITH
APPRECIATION THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL.
THEY REAFFIRMED THEIR DESIRE THAT THE ALLIANCE CONTINUES
TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE PEACE, SECURITY AND STABILITY OF THE
REGION AND TO PROMOTE THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC WELFARE
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OF ITS PEOPLE.

18. THE COUNCIL, NOTING THAT THIS IS THE LAST MEETING AT
WHICH THE CURRENT SECRETARY GENERAL WOULD BE PRESENT,
EXPRESSED ITS DEEP APPRECIATION FOR THE DISTINGUISHED SER-
VICES HE HAS RENDERED DURING HIS TENURE AS WELL AS THE WAY

HE HAS DIRECTED THE WORK OF THE ALLIANCE. THE MINISTERS
INVITED THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY TO PROVIDE A CANDIDATE TO
BE THE NEXT SECRETARY GENERAL.

19. FOLLOWING THE CONCLUSION OF THE DISCUSSION, THE
MINISTERS WERE RECEIVED AT THE WHITE HOUSE BY THE
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

20. THE MINISTERS ACCEPTED THE INVITATION OF THE GOVERN-
MENT OF TURKEY TO HOST THE NEXT SESSION OF THE COUNCIL IN
MAY 1975, IN ANKARA. RUSH

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED ABOVE ADDRESSEES.

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